

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.  
HOUSTON, TEXAS, June 10, 1865.

A TRANSITION PERIOD.

Just at this moment, Texas is in a most anomalous condition. The cry of "Le Roi est mort," which announces the demise of one sovereign, has not yet been followed by its usually invariable complement, "Vive le Roi." The triumph of the national arms is everywhere acknowledged, and the formal surrender of the trans-Mississippi Department, which took place on the 26th ult., demolishing at one fell swoop every vestige of the civil and military sway of the late Confederacy, has left Texas almost without the semblance of a de facto Government of any kind. True, the permanent authority of the United States is, by a fiction of law, supposed to extend over the entire land from the moment of the surrender; but, for all practical purposes, it is a very groundless fiction indeed.

One of the local papers (The Telegraph) loosely states the fact that when the surrender was finally determined on there was no hostile army within 500 miles, and no officer to surrender to—the Commanding General being even compelled to go beyond a marine league to sea in order to deliver up his sword! The lack of paroling officers and officials authorized to administer "the oath" is deplored in a similar spirit, and the suggestion made that a purse be raised by voluntary contributions to send some citizen to New-Orleans in order that he may be inoculated with the oath, and on his return be enabled to spread the healthy infection of loyalty, which it is supposed to communicate among this anxious community!

POSTAL COMMUNICATION.

The sudden collapse of Confederate currency, which was the motive power in the dispatch of all purely governmental business at least, has very nearly deprived us of trustworthy mail communications. A notice at the post-office informs all interested that Confederate postage stamps, having become worthless, will not, after June 1, be received in payment of postage, while inquiry reveals the fact that United States stamps are equally valueless. Of a verity the King is dead, but where is his successor? By a happy compromise, however, upon the payment of 10 cents per letter in specie such facilities as the Post-Office Department can command are still kept in operation for the benefit of the public. For so much we are indebted to the good sense of the people, who, during the interregnum, are discharging the duties of regents in the management of their own affairs in a highly creditable manner, as a general thing.

DISBANDING OF THE REBEL ARMY.

For two weeks previous to the surrender, however, the troops had become entirely unmanageable. Recognizing the fact that a surrender was inevitable, but refused to "stand upon the order of their going," but, disregarding the orders of their officers, hastened to demand and return home. Confederate money, which had never been in circulation as a currency in this section of the State, having now become utterly worthless even as a commodity, and long arrangements of pay being due many of them, the troops very naturally laid hold of every species of government property they could lay hands on to compensate themselves. Mules, wagons, cotton, wool, stationery, sugar and other supplies were seized and carried off. The mules and wagons furnished means of transportation for their homes. At every military post throughout the country the quartermaster and commissary stores were broken open, and the contents paroled out among those present. A man's share of the plunder was generally determined by his capacity to get, to keep and to carry off.

In some instances where parties left none of the public stores for those behind them, even private property was not respected. The mules and horses of citizens along the most traveled routes were taken without scruple. There being just two things that Texans hate more cordially than all others, viz: walking a foot and having their animals stolen, occasional fights occurred between the marauding heroes and pugnacious citizens. Sometimes, too, were parties of unequal numbers, coming from opposite directions, met, if an inspection showed the booty by the lesser to be disproportionate, a new division was insisted on, and generally submitted to good-naturedly.

TREASONABLE ACCIDENT.

One sad accident, involving a loss of 15 lives and a large amount of valuable property, was occasioned by one of these predatory forays. At the little town of Marston, which is situated on the line of the Houston and Texas Central Railroad, and about 70 miles North-West of this place, they broke into a laboratory to get a supply of powder. After they had taken what they wanted one of them, incited by a wanton love of mischief, or the fumes of bad whisky, lighted the fuse of a shell and flung it into the building, causing an instantaneous explosion, followed by a fire, which destroyed half the town, and buried, it is believed, not less than 15 human beings into eternity, including him whose criminal recklessness occasioned the disaster.

INDISCRIMINATE PLUNDERING.

Hitherto these depredations have been principally confined to the lines of travel running north and south from Galveston and this city to Marshall and Shreveport, or, at least, intelligence from these directions being more accessible, we heard of them more frequently. Just now, however, accounts of similar operations, in which private property has been unscrupulously dealt with, reach us from the West. A Mexican train of 40 wagons was lately set upon near Texana, and plundered of upward of \$100,000 worth of goods. Such articles as could not be carried away were ruthlessly destroyed and scattered over the prairie, on the alleged ground that it was the property of speculators, who had been robbing the country during the past four years. A cotton train, going toward the Mexican frontier, was in like manner taken possession of and escorted along the road to its destination by its captors, to be disposed of for their own benefit. Such, at least, are the generally accredited rumors, in the absence of trustworthy means of intelligence.

EDWIN SMITH'S EXIT.

The valiant address of Gen. E. K. Smith, of the 23d ult., reveals the fact that on the termination of his conference with the Governors at Marshall about the 23d ult., at which it had been decided not to accept the terms of surrender proposed by Gen. Grant's Commissioners, he (Gen. Smith) ordered the necessary dispositions of the troops for the defense of the Department in the event of the terms demanded by him in turn being conceded. But a majority of the troops regarding the fact that the cause in defense of which they had volunteered to fight was hopelessly lost, refused to obey orders that would prolong a fruitless war and entail fresh miseries on their suffering wives and families. Recognizing their voluntary abandonment, which has saved the nation an immense expenditure of blood and treasure, and given the people a new claim and Government an additional motive for magnanimity and leniency toward them.

MINOR THINGS REFERRING TO SURRENDER.

One important effect of the intelligence that a surrender on some terms was inevitable—rendered so by the army itself—was the resolve of a large body of Missouri troops not to be included in it. These men had taken part in all the struggle, and having been rendered homeless by the desolating march of hostile troops through their State, had no inducement to return thither, even if they were permitted to do so. They resolved to retain their arms, together with such supplies and

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AS THEY COULD GET HOLD OF, AND, MARCHING ACROSS THE FRONTIER, TO TENDER THEIR SERVICES TO THE EMPEROR MAXIMILIAN.

The peculiar hardship of their position, and the air of chivalric romance that surrounded their enterprise, secured them such general sympathy among both army and people, that no order of the Commanding General to restrain them could have been enforced, had he issued one. They are commanded by Gen. Shelby, also a Missourian, who is highly spoken of as a gallant and capable officer. They have been on the march westward for nearly a month, and should by this time be close to the Mexican frontier, if not already in Mexico. Their numbers are variously estimated at from three to twelve thousand men.

SMITH'S NEGOTIATIONS.

On discovering the feeling and determination of the troops, Gen. Smith immediately dispatched Gens. Buckner and Price to New-Orleans to negotiate a surrender on the basis of the terms already offered to him. At the same time he himself started and ordered the removal of headquarters to this city. On his arrival here, two commissioners, Messrs. Smith and Ballinger, were sent to New-Orleans in behalf of this State to confer with Gen. Canby in regard to the status and civil rights of citizens. Soon afterward he visited the fleet off Galveston, accompanied by Gen. Magruder; approved the terms of surrender agreed upon by Canby with Price and Buckner; published his valiant address, and prepared to leave for the North, whither his family had already preceded him. The arrival of President Johnson's Amnesty Proclamation, which reached here on the 28th inst., and places him among the exempted classes, has probably changed his intention, as it has that of Magruder.

NOT SO RICH AS REPORTED.

As popular rumor, both here and at the North, has ascribed to these two gentlemen the possession of immense wealth, derived from the Mexican cotton trade, simple justice to two gallant officers, whatever their errors or misfortunes, demand the refutation of a calumny (unfortunately for them) without the slightest foundation in fact. Should they be arraigned for treason, neither of them possesses enough to enable him to retain the services of even a Tomba lawyer for his defense! Those who know the character and habits of the two men will find no argument to convince them of this. Gen. Magruder is an imprudent and impulsive man, whose liberal and profuse expenditures were never restrained by any thought for the future. He is indebted to the generosity of friends for the scant means by which he hopes, as a refugee in a foreign land, to be able to escape persecution. Gen. Smith, on the other hand, is a gentleman of most exemplary life and spotless private character. A pious and humble member of the Episcopal Church, in which it was his highest ambition to be permitted to take holy orders on the termination of the war, his orderly habits and scrupulous adherence to a conscientious discharge of his duties, secure all reasoning men the pronouncedness of this charge. Indeed, his lack of administrative capacity as a department commander, placed the possibility of successful prosecution beyond his reach had he been so inclined.

I have never personally known either of these gentlemen or enjoyed any favor at their hands. Their present status as fugitives gives little promise of "thrill" following this voluntary attempt to do them justice; but deriving my facts from unquestionable sources, I believe them, and make the statement with an unswerving faith in their truth.

AMNESTY MATTERS.

The numerous exceptions embraced in the Amnesty Proclamation of President Johnson have caused a great deal of disappointment and anxiety throughout this State. It is believed and hoped that as the news of the surrender of this Department could hardly have been known at Washington at the time the proclamation was written, future modifications will be adopted, calculated to allay the excitement of the public mind, and withdraw from designing men a fruitful means of keeping alive discontent and uneasiness.

NEW ORDER OF THINGS.

The advent of National troops, which promises the resumption of mail and other communications, and the revival of industry and commerce, by imparting a new sense of security, is eagerly looked for. The cordial reception given to the Commissioners by the military authorities at New Orleans, and the conciliatory policy indicated to them as that of the Government toward the people of this State, are having their quiet influence, and gradually restoring public confidence. The people generally are disposed to accept the change in their destiny which the trial by arms has decreed, calmly and submissively, if permitted. The United States flag was last week hoisted over the Custom House at Galveston in the presence of a large crowd, who witnessed the ceremony with the most perfect decorum.

From Shreveport and Austin we have intelligence of the resignation of Gov. Allen of Louisiana and Gov. Murrah of this State, the action of both gentlemen being based on a desire to remove obstacles to the quiet and speedy restoration of their States to the fold of the Union.

A Cordon of Colored Troops—Where they are Being Sent—Their Discipline—Reconstruction—Emancipation Not Appreciated—Temper of the Citizens—The Policy of Military Rule—How the Refugees Feel—Gen. Sherman's Order.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.  
INDIANOLA, TEXAS, July 20, 1865.

Since July 1st a cordon of troops, mostly colored, occupies the Coast of Texas, from the Sabine to the Rio Grande. All the Twenty-fifth Army Corps are here, and joined with it are the Thirteenth and Fourth Army Corps—white troops. The latter occupying those parts of the State more or less removed from the Gulf Coast. For ten days past the Fourth Army Corps has been landing at this point and passing inward as fast as its means of transportation permitted, but not as fast as the inhabitants here would have liked. Their experience at this point does not vary much from that of people similarly situated elsewhere who have had the opportunity of comparing the two classes of troops white and colored—of which our army is composed. The white troops here are mostly veterans from the armies of Mississippi and Tennessee; generally disappointed in their expectations of getting out of service with the close of active hostilities, and somewhat of the opinion of Samuel Wells, that "somebody ought to be whipped for that." They generally manage to make somebody pay for it in some way before they get clearly out of town. Not that they have done anything very bad, but a multitude of little liberties have been taken that make it very gratifying to those who have always been the quiet citizens of this town that they now can see only colored soldiers. This fact, a patent one to every unprejudiced observer in every captured town since the day Richmond was occupied by the Union armies, speaks strongly, clearly and unmistakably for the superior discipline of our colored troops. Let it be remembered, also, that our colored soldiers have mainly been educated in circumstances that enforced, particularly by the white man's

ample, the sacredness of private rights—of property or otherwise. It is simply discipline.

MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS.

The troops of the Fourth Corps pass up to the interior with headquarters at San Antonio de Bexar, and will perhaps occupy all that part of Texas north and east of that point, and stretching westward until they connect with those of the Thirteenth Army Corps, lying on and near the Upper Rio Grande. It is the heart of Texas, and the natural garden of the South. What will be the result of sending into such a country troops who are now apparently under the system of discipline in vogue in Ancient Israel under the Judges, and where every man is his own commanding officer, is a problem for the future to decide, and for which competent authority will be responsible. Cool observers who have witnessed the temper and discipline of the troops as they landed and took up their line of march for the interior are generally of the opinion that somebody will get "walloped."

DIFFICULTIES OF RECONSTRUCTION.

From what can yet be learned of the temper and disposition of the people in the rich agricultural districts of the State, it is evident that those officers who may be intrusted with the conservation of peace and good order will have no sincere of office. Things are yet comparatively quiet, for the radical changes in social status made by the Rebellion and its results have not yet taken effect in this region. Except on the seaboard towns and in the actual presence of the military power, emancipation has not fully dawned. There are no newspapers, and in a sparse population news travels slowly, particularly when that class, which does most of the traveling and is the sole medium for the transmission of news, feels interested in preventing the knowledge of great changes from becoming known. On many plantations the labor goes on as of old system, although the negroes are aware, as one of them expressed it, "somebody's broke." Yet they are not entirely certain of their own situation.

RELUCTANCE TO ACCEPT EMANCIPATION.

Even in the immediate presence of our troops, and colored troops at that, a few days since, came an instance of this reluctance of the master to abandon the habits of his former power. At Matagorda, where have been stationed a detachment of the 7th U. S. C. Infantry, a colored man came to the commanding officer and represented that he had been flogged by his master, which he thought was contrary to Massa Lincoln's Proclamation. He was stripped, and his welts bled, as proof of the truth of his story. The two men charged with doing the outrage were sent for. When they came, they were told that the master of the slave was to be flogged for the outrage, and how and when he damn pleased, had vanished. The commanding officer was disposed to let them go free, but other counsels prevailed, and they were each flogged 25. They had no money, and one was released to get enough to redeem both, and the other held as security for his due return. After a long search he found \$10, and the two departed. Before night it was learned that a meeting had been held and means provided for wiping out the handful of nigger soldiers before morning. But, seeing that the secret had leaked out, and that the troops were ready and waiting to be surprised, the rash project was unfortunately abandoned. Perhaps before many days we shall see these troops withdrawn, on the ground that the presence of colored troops disturbed harmony and did not promote reconciliation.

TEXAS DON'T KNOW THAT IT IS WHIPPED.

Virginia was conquered. In South Carolina, Gascon pride and Gascon bravery were overcome, and there as elsewhere east of the Mississippi, the Rebellion was broken down, and in a comitate spirit, more or less, they submit to the inevitable. Reconstruction goes on, although even there many an individual secessionist will feather his own nest and make his fortune out of the United States Treasury, by crowding out some man who has lost all for the Union. But here in Texas, the spirit of Rebellion has not been so thoroughly broken by the hardships of war. They do not feel whipped, and are rather disposed to put on airs and demand a great deal in consideration of having stopped in time to save their own necks. They demand the best places in the gift of the authorities, and what is more to our consideration, they will get them—they are getting them. Mark the prediction—if prediction it is fair to call it when the work of fulfillment has already begun; those same men, who, through their position in the Quartermaster and Commissary Department of the Confederacy, have enriched themselves by hanging and banishing their fellow citizens suspected of attachment to the old Union, and by the confiscation of their property, and who, since the evacuation of the Texas coast by our troops last Winter, have been clamorous for the hanging of persons and confiscation of goods of all who in any way affiliated with our troops while here, will be the first men placed in official positions of trust and profit by the authorities of the United States as represented in Texas. And with that class of men closing up the avenues and sitting nearest to the ears of power, what chance can there be for those poor white men who have lost everything by the Rebellion? And if the poor white man scarcely is saved, how will the poor negro and freedman appear? What justice can be expected even from the soldiers of the North, when every day's experience shows that sympathy does go with color, and that the blunders of his late master go further with a white officer, even the officer of colored soldiers, than any story of their wrongs. The negro of Texas, like the negro of South Carolina, can see the blessings of compensated labor, and is willing to earn them. If assured of the protection of the law, he will submit to and abide by the decisions of the law, but it is fully and ignorance to deny that from some cause, from some evil system working somewhere, they have learned that the end of this Rebellion is to them only a change of drivers—Slavery and despotism under a new name.

THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT—MILITARY RULE.

A MISTAKE.

What can be done about it? Opinions are not worth much, but observation can reach something. And the results of observation on one mind that has brought whatever of intellect and intelligence it could command to bear upon this vexed question, are: First, that justice to all parties will not be secured by leaving the control of this matter in the hands of military commanders. Many good people at the North, taking a vital interest in this subject, congratulate themselves that so large a number of those officers are in command of colored troops, and therefore, from their position, will be disposed to see justice done to the negro, and will not free from negro phobic prejudice. Unfortunately, a more intimate acquaintance with that class of officers would soon dispel that delusion. Thank God, there are among those officers men who have sought that position in the hope that they might there be instrumental in doing some good in the readjustment of the social condition of the white and black, but they have mostly been long enough in the service to learn that they are a minority, powerless for good, or even to restrain evil. Generally, too, of a subordinate position, and overruled by the authority of men higher in rank, and who have entered the service for the sake of the rank. The regimental and Brigade commanders are, too often for this question, Boanonts and captains from the regular regiments who have entered the colored service with all the prejudice of caste so long prevalent in the regular army, and because they could here enjoy a higher rank and emoluments, without losing their position in the regular service. To this class of men the blunders of the master are too much for the claims for justice of the late slave. Short as has been the time, instances of

the effect of such influences have already become too numerous for particular mention.

Secondly, the entire power under Congress in the adjudication of questions between freedmen and their late masters must be, for the reasons glanced at above, placed above the military power. The self-interest of the late planter, and now large landholder, places him in antagonism to the rights of the freedman. From the military officer, looking for social recognition alone to the planter, and with all his sympathies of race, education, prejudice and supposed interests ranged on the same side, the freedman can expect no aid or sympathy. It must come from civil authority specially designated and dedicated to this purpose, and on whose action the eye of a Christian civilization will be specially fixed. To this authority let the military power be subordinate as the hand to the head, and with good men to execute the Nation's will, this question will be a vexed question no more.

RETURNING REFUGEES.

An incident that attended the landing of the first United States troops at Indianola on the 23d of June, worth mentioning to show the feeling of the people at this place, and at that time. Some 300 refugees, former residents of Indianola, but who had left here when the United States troops evacuated, had returned by steamer from New-Orleans. For three days, and during the roughest and most unpleasant weather, these poor people remained in the offing, waiting for the troops to precede them on shore, nor did they come near the landing until they saw that the troops were undoubtedly to disembark. They would not believe that even the near presence of those troops would secure their safety from their fellow-townsmen. But as soon as the 19th United States Colored Troops, Col. Bartholomew, had landed, they also landed and proceeded to seek their desolated and, in some cases, devastated homes.

A WICKED ORDER.

As a part of the history of our movement here, and as evidence of the progress of ideas, the following order is forwarded. It will also explain some passages otherwise not so clear. Please mark the date:

HQ'S, UNITED STATES FORCES, INDIANOLA, TEXAS, July 4, 1865.

GENERAL ORDER, No. 12.—Having come to the knowledge of the Colonel commanding that many colored people are deserting their former masters, bringing with them horses and other property which they have stolen, it is therefore ordered: That no person, either man, woman, or child, who were formerly slaves, shall be hired, harbored or encouraged to leave their former masters by any officer or soldier of this command, as it is clearly for the interest of the slave as well as for the Government that they remain with their former masters and work for wages.

Officers and soldiers are prohibited from purchasing either horses, mules or horse equipments of the colored people who come in from the country.

By order of Col. J. Shaw Jr.

GEO. K. SPEERMAN, Capt. 7th U. S. C. T. and A. A. G.

It may be well to state that on the day the above order was issued Gen. Granger was at Indianola, and present at Col. Shaw's headquarters during his stay. It may or may not have been by his direction that this order was issued.

Honored Defect of Curtains—He Retreats and Crosses into Texas—Illness of Gen. Steele and Officers—Scoury among the Troops—Negroes Along the Coast—Raid by the Kickapoo Indians.

CADDO, Thursday, Aug. 3, 1865.

The steamer Niagara from New-Orleans the 25th ult. has arrived.

The True Blue has advised from Brownsville that Curtiss had been defeated in an engagement with Lowe, between Matamoros and Camargo, and Col. Shaw had returned to the Texas side of the river, leaving all his forces in the hands of the enemy.

Gen. Steele and three of his officers were very sick with the backbone fever. There was a great deal of sickness among our troops, scurvy being the prevailing disease. Yellow fever was developing itself rapidly at Matamoros.

Many planters were bringing cotton into Houston. Five thousand negro troops occupied the coast from Indianola to Victoria, many of whom were engaged in rebuilding the railroad.

A party of Kickapoo Indians recently made a raid upon the Texas frontier, killing and wounding a number of persons and stealing many horses.

FROM TENNESSEE.

The Election—Campbell Successful in Nashville—He is Expected to Carry the District—Hayward, Cooper and Stokes Ahead so far as heard from—The Election passes off Quietly—The Vote Light.

NASHVILLE, Thursday, Aug. 3, 1865.

In the Congressional election in this State to-day, Campbell (Opposition) carried the city by 231 majority. It is now expected that he will carry the District by 2,000 majority.

Maynard in the Knoxville District, and Cooper in the Shelbyville District, both Union, have majorities so far as heard from, and will probably be elected.

Col. Stokes (Union) in the Chattanooga District is also ahead, as far as heard from. No reports have been received from West Tennessee.

The election in this city and throughout Middle Tennessee passed off very quietly. No such interest was manifested as was expected. The vote was very light. Over 2,000 less votes were cast in this city than there were registered voters.

Social Condition of the State—Singular Phases of the Political Situation—Gov. Campbell's Chances—Sensational News—Constitution Needed—The Freedmen and Negro Suffrage—Gen. Fiske.

From Our Special Correspondent.

NASHVILLE, July 30, 1865.

To scan the sensation paragraphs circulating through the country, one would suppose that Tennessee, from one end to the other, was the theater of social anarchy and lawlessness. While, some months back, such would properly characterize its condition, happily, such is not the case now. There is hardly a day that the Associated Press telegram does not furnish the Nashville papers with revolting tales of fiendish outrages and barbarous murders, perpetrated, perchance, in some far away Northern State. With the wickedness and depravity that human nature is capable of, this is hardly to be wondered at. Is it strange, then, if Tennessee with the heterogeneous and partially degraded elements composing her population, should furnish her quota to the damning record of blood and murder? No. And so, with pretty fair opportunities of learning what is transpiring through the State, I remark very frankly that, butting some exceptional depredations by lingering guerrillas and other lawless wretches, now, by the way, nearly dead out of Tennessee is today almost as peaceful and serene as any State in the Union. This may sound strange, but such, nevertheless, is the fact. With the bit of a subordinate position, and overruled by the authority of men higher in rank, and who have entered the service for the sake of the rank. The regimental and Brigade commanders are, too often for this question, Boanonts and captains from the regular regiments who have entered the colored service with all the prejudice of caste so long prevalent in the regular army, and because they could here enjoy a higher rank and emoluments, without losing their position in the regular service. To this class of men the blunders of the master are too much for the claims for justice of the late slave. Short as has been the time, instances of

produced by the late strife will be healed for long years to come.

The stings of wounded pride and disappointment will have become a permanent fixture with the more depraved and inveterate Rebels, and social alienation and ill-feeling will obtain, to some extent, throughout the State. Nevertheless, with the great majority, the feeling and desire is, that, while maintaining honest differences of political opinion, the sooner the return to social reorganization and good feeling be better.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

While it is very happy, free from criminal lawlessness and depredations, the State is, just now in a political ferment, arising from a general and vigorous prosecution of the Congressional canvass. And here I may say, that it speaks loudly for the peaceable condition of the State, that while all the candidates are, at least, ostensibly loyal—Emerson Etheridge, perhaps excepted—they are making a thorough canvass of the State from one end to the other, with none to molest or make them afraid.

The situation, it must be confessed, presents some peculiar and anomalous phases. Although, as I said, all the candidates are professedly loyal, a local shibboleth attaches genuine, unadulterated Unionism only to those who advocate and sustain what is known as the Franchise Law, passed at the recent session of the Legislature. This Franchise bill and the discussion growing out of it have given rise to nearly all the hue and cry about open and flagrant opposition to the laws and the Legislature which enacted them. Well, in the Chattanooga District there are two candidates: James R. Hood and Col. Stokes. In the dark days of the Republic, when men were hunted down and murdered for their faithfulness to the old Government, the former narrowly escaped with his life for daring to be loyal, while the latter gave his hearty support to the Rebellion, going so far as to write a violent public letter showing up the "Lincoln despotism." Now Mr. Hood is under ban with the State officials, because, for some reason best known to himself, he opposes proscriptive legislation, while Stokes—a latter-day saint, is the loyal candidate, par excellence. Hood is an earnest and uncompromising advocate of negro suffrage, while some of his super-loyal opponents will go into spasms at anything smacking of "nigger" elevation. And this anomaly finds repetition in other districts.

While, as a general thing, Rebels are decidedly opposed to the franchise law—and this is very natural—some of the best Union men in the State are equally against it, mostly on the ground that its provisions are calculated to increase rather than heal up the difficulties and animosities already existing.

EX-GOVERNOR CAMPBELL.

In this, the Nashville District, ex-Gov. Campbell is certain to be elected. He is a Conservative of the strictest stripe, and is constitutionally averse to anything reformatory and progressive. It will be a misfortune to have such a fossil go to Congress, but his opponents will be to blame in not concentrating on some man of other qualifications beside that of being able "to keep a hotel." You may set it down, however, that the delegation elected, as a body, will be genuinely loyal, and in favor of the general measures of the Administration.

A great deal of the exciting news transmitted over the country about the violent and factitious opposition to the State Government, is purely sensational. It must be always borne in mind that Rebels will bear watching. But while admitting this, the mere idea that they are hatching all sorts of schemes to overthrow the State Government, is not sufficient grounds to have them arrested and thrust into jail. A couple of weeks since the papers were burdened with stories detailing the inflammatory harangues of Gov. Campbell, in which he denounced the Legislature, and its acts as unconstitutional. A few days since he spoke in Nashville, and, with note book and pencil in hand, I went to hear him, to make sure of what he would say. In the most positive terms he stated that he held the Legislature a constitutional body, and all its acts valid and binding, but simply claimed the privilege of using his influence to have some of these acts repealed, and chief among them the franchise law. And so in nearly every other case, except, perhaps, that of Etheridge, and, with him, I think a little wholesome, imposed penance is quite necessary, and will do him good. He must not, however, be taken as a specimen of the opposition in Tennessee.

NECESSITY OF CONCILIATION.

Two or three years since, in localities where it cost something to be loyal, unwavering, outspoken hostility to the Slaveholders' Rebellion, developed the true hero, heroes of the hour. Then the name of Parson Brownlow was synonymous with unswerving allegiance to the starry flag, and death and destruction to its enemies. The Parson is now the Governor of Tennessee, and his loyal instincts and impulses are still as green and fresh as of yore. But while saying all this, it is uncharitable to suggest that, now the Rebellion is suppressed and conflicting elements are to be blended and harmonized, one other role beside the stern and uncompromising might occasionally be brought into play. I certainly think not. The Governor is prolific in proclamations and addresses, and those who remember the distinctive peculiarities of *The Knoxville Whig*, can only detect a striking similarity in the style of the gubernatorial documents. The question is, would not a style smacking more of conciliation and forbearance be more in keeping with the requirements and questions of the hour?

THE FREEDMEN—NEGRO SUFFRAGE.

This theme suggests material for a long and separate letter, so I'll merely glance at it now. In general terms, then, no matter what is said to the contrary, the freedmen in Tennessee are, considering the surroundings, in a favorable and progressive condition. Gen. Fiske, the Commissioner of Freedmen for Kentucky and Tennessee, informs me that matters in his line are progressing as well as he could expect. Labor is abundant, and although a strong prejudice prevails against the blacks, the laws of demand and supply brings the negroes into healthy activity with reasonable pay for their services.

GEN. FISKE.

Gen. Fiske, by the way, is the man for the place, and instinctively sympathizes with the oppressed or neglected, no matter of what color or caste. The most promising feature connected with the advancement of the colored race is their general educational advancement.

There are not less than twelve colored schools here in the city of Nashville, all in successful and healthy operation. In one school alone, during the last two years, no less than 1,200 scholars of various ages and both sexes have been thoroughly proficient in reading, while a large proportion of them have mastered other branches.

"Do you suppose that I'll let any of my daughters marry big black niggers?" remarked an old lady in my hearing, as the question of negro suffrage was being discussed. The venerable dame appeared to be thoroughly under the impression that colored suffrage surely involved the probability of her being daughters all of whom, as I passed, were quite fit to be the colorless—being in fact colored husbands. Madame labored under very little more apprehension on this subject than vast numbers of the population of the Southern States in these latter days. Only hint that the colored man has an inalienable right to vote, and forthwith they go in a torrent of passion about "nigger" equality, and that, for themselves they couldn't think of associating with them. At present the prospects for colored suffrage in Tennessee are dim indeed. The most radical Unionists in the Legislature were those who voted for the odious negro bill, and who are now the most ardent opponents of the bill. The freedmen nearly to the origin of state. Fortunately the bill only passed the house, and can now ever become a law. If Gov. Brownlow was half as anxious to see those who have been so long in the hands of the colored man in possession of their rights, as he is to keep the ballot from Rebels, the future of Tennessee might possibly be more promising.

DEFEAT OF THE PARAGUAYANS

Military Operations of the Two Parties.

SLAVERY IN BRAZIL.

From The London Times, July 21.

By the French mail steamer Guineen we have received advices from Buenos Ayres to the 14th of June, Montevideo the 12th, and Rio Janeiro the 23d.

From the Paraná we have intelligence of the recapture of Corrientes by Gen. Panero's Argentine Brigade, assisted by the Brazilian fleet, and a small body of their infantry and artillery. The first action was fought on the 12th, and the Argentine forces were victorious to all the parties engaged, and the loss on both sides considerable for the number in action—the allies losing 250 out of 500, and the Paraguayans about 400 out of 1,200 or 1,500; few prisoners being taken and these mostly women. Three cannon, some arms and munitions and a flag were, however, captured from the Paraguayans. The victory, it is true, had little value beyond whatever moral effect it may have upon the opposing armies, as from want of supplies and sufficient force, no attempt was made to use the town as a basis, and it was evacuated on the following day, the Argentines returning to Esquina, and the Brazilian fleet proceeding to Tres Bocas, to blockade the Paraguay, merely leaving a gunboat to watch Corrientes. A forward movement on the part of Gen. Caesars across the St. Lucia resulted in nothing, the Paraguayans proving too strong, and he returned to his former position behind this river. The Paraguayans showed some disposition to cross, and it is probable that they would have done so, had it not been for the Argentine infantry and artillery, under Panero, were concentrating at Esquina, which is about 80 miles below. Gen. Urquiza was, however, making forced marches with 4,000 or 5,000 men to join Caesars, but the bodies were not able to effect a junction with the troops under Gen. Caesars and Lagranga, while the Paraguayans, unopposed, occupied Gona, and were said to be marching toward Missiones to form a union with the troops engaged in ravaging the district of Iguazu.

The Brazilian army on the Uruguay had crossed the river at Salto to the town of Concordia, whither the Argentine reinforcements from Buenos Ayres and the Uruguayan contingent were proceeding. The plan of the campaign (says the *Argentine Herald*) is now understood to be to concentrate the main armies of the Allies south of Lake Ibera, so as to prevent the junction of the two Paraguayan corps occupying the province of Corrientes, and crush the main body in the west, while the Brazilian fleet guarded the Paraguay and Paraná Rivers and prevented reinforcement from Humaita, or retreat across the latter river. The respective strength of the armies in Corrientes is stated to be: Brazilians, 20,000 troops, well armed, with 38 pieces of rifled cannon; Argentines, 20,000, of whom about 6,000 are well armed and efficient, the remainder being in general badly off in all respects, with 20 pieces of cannon; and the Uruguayan contingent of 2,000, tolerably well equipped, with six pieces of rifled cannon; in all 40,000 or 45,000 men, with 64 pieces of cannon, and about 12,000 horses. The Argentine army in Rio Grande do Sul against the Uruguay, guarding against invasion from Missiones